

**REMARKS**

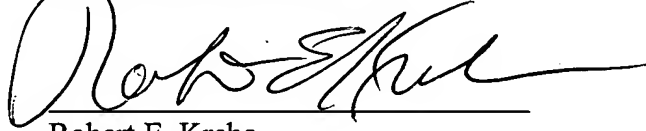
Entry of the foregoing amendment to the specification is requested to comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.78(a)(2).

Favorable consideration and an early allowance of this application are earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner should be of the opinion that a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,  
THELEN REID & PRIEST LLP

Dated: Dec. 13, 2004

  
Robert E. Krebs  
Reg. No. 25,885

THELEN REID & PRIEST LLP  
P.O. Box 640640  
San Jose, CA 95164-0640  
Tel: (408) 292-5800  
Fax: (408) 287-8040